

become the center and they're going to become the hotbed because people are going to come to rural Nebraska or they're going to come to the first district or the second district to get that lone electoral vote. And it was going to be this great deal, we were going to get all of this attention and, you know, the candidates did come to Nebraska. They flew over with such regularity to Nebraska, I was...I mean, it really did occur. The candidates did come to Nebraska. They would fly over. They would start in the east and buzz across the west but they didn't come. Omaha did get a visit for a few minutes. Our experiment didn't work. And, quite frankly, on election night I was rather embarrassed. The national commentators looked at Nebraska and, Senator Schimek, I've got a little note here that says, be kind to Senator Schimek, so I'm going to do that. This is not...this is not directed...DiAnna, as the Chairman of the committee, did bring this proposal to the Legislature, put in a tremendous amount of time and effort and this is not a...this is not a reflection on her personally at all. But what happened was that Nebraska sort of became the ward of the state of...of the United States because on election night all of a sudden we start to look at...and there's this little asterisk by Nebraska and Maine, and, unfortunately, since Maine was way up at the other end of the country and so it was on the border with all the other things that it...the ward occurred right in the middle of the country and it was us, they were saying, we don't know what Nebraska is doing, they're a little different, they split their electoral votes and we sort of got haw-hawed a few times and our heads shaken and, in fact, I remember listening to a few of the commentators talk about the chaos that could, if the rest of the country would move in this direction, that could occur. I think our intentions two years ago were very good. I really do. I didn't agree with them but, at the same time, I think our intentions were right that perhaps this could gain us some attention. Quite frankly, it didn't work. And this has come to play, I think the danger is very, very great and particularly given some of the candidates such as Ross Perot and a few others that is we have a president who was not elected by a majority of the voters of the country that you have candidates such as Ross Perot who will come in and who can, if this becomes a trend, and the danger is that if we don't retreat from this stance, maybe some other poor state will say, well gee, Nebraska did it, maybe we ought to try it. And what I would like to do is not make Nebraska sort of the beginning of the unraveling of the system because it's very dangerous. What can happen is that if you can gain one electoral vote, you will come in and if you have enough